

Message Text

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ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 ORM-01 SR-02 FDRE-00

OPR-02 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SCS-03 /044 W

----- 114798

R 130910Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3316

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

JCS

CNO WASHDC

NAVY JAG WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

CINCPACREPPHIL

CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

NLSO SUBIC

13 AIR FORCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 6444

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF PRIVATE VIETNAMESE REGISTERED
SHIPS AT SUBIC

REF: CINCPAC MSG DTG 130316Z MAY 75

1. PRESENTLY ANCHORED AT SUBIC BAY ARE 4 PRIVATE
VIETNAMESE REGISTERED CIVILIAN SHIPS. SHIPS BROUGHT
IN REFUGEES AND ALL VIETNAMESE, INCLUDING CREW, ARE
NOW IN REFUGEE PIPELINE. SUBIC ANTICIPATES POSSIBLY
40 TO 50 SIMILAR TYPE SHIPS WILL APPEAR AT SUBIC.
THEY INCLUDE MOSTLY FISHING VESSELS AND COASTAL
STEAMERS.

2. IN ORDER TO MAKE RAPID DISPOSITION OF SHIPS
AND ALLEVIATE POTENTIAL PROBLEM, EMB PROPOSES
FOLLOWING COURSES OF ACTION: (A) WHENEVER ORIGINAL
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CREW IS WILLING, EVACUEES WOULD BE OFFLOADED, VESSEL REPLEN-

ISHED AND ALLOWED TO PROCEED UNDER ESCORT TO GUAM;
(B) WHEN ORIGINAL CREW NOT WILLING TO RISK VAYAGE
OR SHIP TOO SMALL, NOTIFY PHIL MILITARY LIAISON
OFFICE AT SUBIC TO DETERMINE IF GOP DESIRES TO
EXERCISE JURISDICTION OVER SUCH SHIPS, AND, IF SO,
WHERE SHIP TO BE SENT; (C) IF GOP INFORMS THEY ARE
NOT INTERESTED, SHIPS WILL EITHER BE TOWED OR
SENT WITH APPROPPPPPRIATE CREWS UNDER OWN POWER TO
GUAM AND PUT UNDER JURISDICTION OF U.S. FEDERAL
COURT TO DETERMINE OWNERSHIP. WHILE RECOGNIZING
TOWING IS EXPENSIVE PROPOSITION, IF PHILS REFUSE
TO BECOME INTERESTED, THIS IS ONLY METHOD LEFT TO REMOVE
PROBLEM.

3. IT IS ASSUMED THAT ANY COSTS INCURRED BY NAVY
IN RELATION TO ANY ACTIONS PROPOSED ABOVE WILL BE
APPROPRIATE CHARGE AGAINST EVACUATION FUNDS AND
WILL BE REIMBURSED. PLEASE CONFIRM.

4. EMB WISHES TO STRESS THAT IMMEDIATE RESOLUTION
OF THIS PROBLEM IS NECESSARY TO PREVENT SUCH SHIPS
FROM REMAINING AT SUBIC BAY IN LIMBO STATUS. IT
IS ALTOGETHER FEASIBLE THAT UNLESS AFFIRMATIVE
ACTION IS TAKEN AT THIS TIME SUBJECT SHIPS COULD
REMAIN AT SUBIC, TIED UP IN JURISDICTIONAL AND
POLITICAL PROBLEMS FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE,
CAUSING BOTH FINANCIAL, ANCHORAGE AND SHIP
SECURITY PROBLEMS TO U.S. NAVY AUTHORITIES AT
SUBIC. THEREFORE, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED
(SEE REFTTEL THE ACTION PROPOSED IN PARA 2 ABOVE
WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ASAP.

5. CINCPACREPPHIL HAS BEEN INFORMED OF SUBSTANCE
OF THIS MESSAGE AND CONCURS.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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